MAY 3 1 2008

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Zimmer

Atty. Docket: RDID 0043 US

Application No.: 09/554,793

Group No.: 1743

Filed: September 19, 2000

Examiner: Alexander, Lyle

For: Capillary Active Test Element Having an Intermediate Layer

Situated Between the Support and the Covering

Mail Stop AF Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT AND REPLY UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.116

Sir:

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

In response to the Final Office Action mailed February 23, 2006, an extension of time, entry of the following amendments and consideration of the accompanying remarks is respectfully requested.